Application Serial Number 10/038,547 Attorney Docket Number RA-5368 Response Filed 11/14/2005

Glaim Amendments **

It is requested that the following amendments be entered into the Claims:

Claims 1 - 4 (Cancelled)

- 1 5. (Currently Amended). A second stage lottery program for a dispatcher program
- 2 that dispatches tasks within an operating system of a computer system, the computer
- 3 system supporting at least two classes of said tasks, each of said classes including at
- 4 least two levels of said tasks, said dispatcher program to determine which of said tasks
- 5 will be assigned to a next available IP resource, said second stage lottery program
- 6 comprising:
- 7 a random number generator and selection program for generating a first random
- 8 number for selecting one of said at least two classes, and for generating a second
- 9 random number for selecting one of said at least two levels within said selected
- 10 class; and
- a transfer program for transferring control of assigning said next available IP
- 12 resource from said second stage lottery program to execute a task assigned to said
- 13 selected one of said at least two levels.
- 6. (Previously Amended) The second stage lottery program of claim 5 further
- 2 comprising:
- a level switching routine for handling a failure by said transfer program to find
- a task on said selected one of said at least two levels, said level switching routine for
- 5 selecting a different one of said at least two levels that is associated with a task, and
- allowing transfer of control to said task associated with said different one of said at
- 7 least two levels.